

UNCLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Somalia
PINS
Dissidents

INCOMING

6614 AF4303

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ACTION INR-05

6614 AF4303

INFO AS-01 AF-P-01 AFRA-01 RCA-01 PHA-01 AFE-01 S-01 TUM-01
KEN-01 CIBT-01 AFVF-01 /011 A2

INFO LOG-00 AF-00 OS-00 EUR-00 INRE-00 PA-02 /010W
-----055430 292134Z /38

R 262004Z OCT 90
FM FBIS ABIDJAN IV
TO FBIS RESTON VA
CIRCUSNAVEUR LONDON UR//H2//
USCINCCENT
USCENTCOM REAR MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//
CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//
FBIS LONDON UK
NAVOPINTEC SUITLAND MD
VOA WASH DC
STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR/SEE/S//
AMEMBASSY MOGADISHU
AMEMBASSY HAIROBI
DEFINTAGENCY WASH DC
CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//
HPC FT GEO & MEADE MD
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
VOA MUNICH GE
FBIS TEL AVIV IS
ACCT FBAB-EMOK

UNCLAS 3F/LD PHM

WARNING: ATTN TEL AVIV OFDF

SERIAL: EA2610200490

COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJ: MOSCOV RADIO COMMENTS ON 'CHAOS' IN SOMALIA

SOURCE: MOSCOV INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN SOMALI 1600 GMT 25 OCT 90
TEXT:

// (FROM THE "WORLD EVENTS TODAY" PROGRAM)

((TEXT)) THREE WERE KILLED AND OVER 30 INJURED IN THE 23 OCTOBER
CONFRONTATION BETWEEN POLICE AND DEMONSTRATORS IN MOGADISHU. OUR
COMMENTATOR, VLADIMIR BORISOV, COMMENTS:

((BORISOV)) HUNDREDS WERE PARTICIPATING IN A DEMONSTRATION
CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL DETAINEES WHEN THE POLICE FIRED
ON THEM. THE ORGANIZERS OF THE DEMONSTRATION, WHOM THE GOVERNMENT
CALLS TROUBLEMAKERS, WERE APPEALING TO THE PEOPLE TO MARK 23 OCTOBER
AS POLITICAL DETAINEES' DAY. THE SOMALI MASSES ARE ENRAGED BY THE
GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO RELEASE THOSE DETAINED BY THE SOMALI
NATIONAL SECURITY COURT. THE NEW CONSTITUTION, WHICH CAME INTO
EFFECT ON 12 OCTOBER 1990, ABOLISHED THE COURT.

MOGADISHU, ONE OF THE FEW PLACES CONTROLLED BY THE SIAD
BARRE REGIME, IS ENTERING A NEW ERA OF CHAOS. THESE LATEST
DEMONSTRATIONS AND THEIR REPERCUSSIONS CONSTITUTE CLEAR EVIDENCE
THAT THE COUNTRY IS IN TOTAL CHAOS. THE QUESTION IS: WHAT WILL BE
THE OUTCOME OF ALL THIS CHAOS?

LAST WEEK WAS THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF SIAD'S COMING TO POWER.
THE THREE MAJOR REBEL GROUPS ISSUED A JOINT COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING
THE MERGER OF THEIR FORCES TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT. THEY
STRESSED THERE COULD BE NO DIALOGUE WITH THE SIAD BARRE REGIME.
THIS COMMUNIQUE CAST A DARK SHADOW OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS
TO HOLD TALKS WITH THE REBELS. THE REBEL GROUPS HAVE NOT YET
ANNOUNCED ANY TANGIBLE POLITICAL PROGRAM. THEY ARE NOTHING BUT
TRIBAL ARMED REBELS, WHO IN NO WAY COULD BE CALLED A POLITICAL

OPPOSITION. THE CONTINUING ARMED STRUGGLE IS A STRUGGLE FOR POWER,

WHICH PLACES A QUESTION MARK ON THE REBEL LEADERSHIP'S ABILITY TO
ACHIEVE FULL UNITY.

HOWEVER, IT IS AN UNDENIABLE FACT THAT THE MILITARY MERGER OF
THE REBEL GROUPS CONSTITUTES A THREAT TO THE REGIME. THE REBEL
GROUPS HAVE REALIZED THAT THEIR DISUNITY HELPED THE REGIME TO
CLING TO POWER, DESPITE THE CHAOTIC SITUATION, BUT EVEN IF THE
GOVERNMENT IS TOPPLED BY THE JOINT REBEL MILITARY FORCES, THIS
DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE CIVIL WAR BLAZING IN SOMALIA WILL END. THE
CIVIL WAR WILL SIMPLY BLAZE FURTHER.

SOMALIA MIGHT FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF LIBERIA, BUT THE
LATEST EVENTS IN MOGADISHU ALSO SHOW THAT SOMALIA'S DESTINY MIGHT
TAKE A DIFFERENT COURSE. MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISTS HAVE UNEXPECTEDLY
APPEARED IN POLITICAL LIFE. THEY ARE OPPOSED TO THE NEW
CONSTITUTION, WHICH PROVIDES FOR FORMING MANY PARTIES AND
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION. THE MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISTS HAVE CONDEMNED
THE GOVERNMENT FOR ADOPTING A EUROPEAN-STYLE CONSTITUTION, ARGUING
THAT ONLY ISLAMIC LAW CAN SALVAGE THE COUNTRY FROM CHAOS. IN THE
CONTEXT OF THE PREVAILING CRISIS, THE MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISTS APPEAR
TO BE WORKING TO BRING ABOUT THE DOWNFALL OF THE GOVERNMENT.

RENDALL 291600

26/2040Z OCT

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAY 2001

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